

HENRY DARGER -

"THE VIVIAN

GIRLS

IN CHICAGO"

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conquered and the house must be next."

"But how can it be accomplished in the face of all these odds?" demanded the Octopus.

"I haven't made my plan to you people here yet."

"I thought you worked your plan out side and surprised us."

"No indeed, I worked no plan."

"Then what is your plan?"

"I cannot give it out here, demons may be listening. Say it's near supper time. I know you never eat here as the spirits will do everything crazy with the food table and dishes. Sets go to my house I and my mother can talk of the plan with you. We'll let her do the best deciding. Mother knows."

"Well what's keeping us?" Sets go "cried the little Virriams together."

- The ^{five} plan.
 The battle of Sessmann
 Manor.
 The results.
 The final plans.

It did not take them very long to reach the place but when they entered his mother was not at home.

George wanted very much the advice of his mother and she not being home was a disappointment to him.

However I must admit that he only brought Pennod and his sisters. For the others there was no room.

The house was not very large though pretty and new looking being a two story frame and George and his mother and sister occupied the whole place.

"Would you mind waiting until ma comes home?" he asked. "I'll send sis to look for her."

"If it aint imposing on you its all right with us," answered Violet.

So Nellie went out to find her mother. However Violet and her sisters feared secretly that the barnskees may catch on and follow them to Georges house to learn of the plan but her fears were not necessary.

The fiends thought they went to some church to pray and did not shadow them. If they had they could have defeated Georges purpose. Mrs Scamlon was out on a shopping tour and the little girl had some time to find her. Being through and learning from her little daughter who

were at her house she hurried home with her as fast as she could.

She greeted Pennod and his sisters like long known friends, and telling them they must stay to supper said to George.

"Did you almost succeed?"

"We made good progress on the grounds, excepting that crazy elm tree" he answered.

"What about the mansion?"

"We are repulsed."

"And you have not made your plan yet George?"

"No ma, we couldnt do it there. If the devils overheard us they may find ways to frustrate us and drive us out. Those demons must not be allowed to overhear us under any conditions. Otherwise our hash is cooked."

"Well," said his mother in a confidential tone of voice after supper we will make out a good plan. But lets get ready to eat and rest up a bit first."

It was an elegant supper, and one of Pennods sisters helped Nellie wash and wipe the dishes. When the table was cleared they all re-seated themselves around it.

Then after George explained things more fully his mother asked.

"Is the mansion very large son?"

"Why yes, in a way its much too large. Its its size that gives the devils the advantage over us. And its like a palace in side the interior is more beautifully decorated than any place I have ever seen. But too my opinion the rooms

are far too large, the ceilings are too high about twenty to twenty five feet. That big room with the ceiling 20 feet or more above the floor should make a very good chapel as the ceiling reminds me of St Vincent's Church.

And that dome ceiling dining room is to me a nutty idea.

I believe the halls have still higher ceilings and are most magnificently decorated, with pictures painted on the ceiling. But if I owned the building I'd have those crazy suit of mail images removed and sacred statues put there instead.

The most houses I've read of that were haunted like Sesernans were old or ramshackle places but Mr Sesernans building is brand new.

Though not as high, it covers more ground than even St Joseph's hospital does, and is twice as wide and longer.

"You'll have a difficult problem there on account of the house. Your father never had experience with large haunted houses," said his mother. They were mostly small affairs, or medium size, not even two stories tall. There were even big houses many of them in England which he heard are haunted and investigated. They proved false rumors or if some were haunted, they had devils posing as ghosts.

I firmly believe Mr Sesernans house is haunted by the highest rank demons of all, called Eibs or Phamfarms, of which Satan is one. These are so dreaded by mortals and immortals alike that no one has ever dared contest them. It's strange

to me little girls like you would even so much as enter that 'crazy place' and that their tremendous power united to the strength of the Satanic demons called Growleywogs, Nomes, and the cunning of the Whimsie Gargoyles did not doom you and the building together to absolute destruction.

If it's true that you little girls are possessed by angels that alone has saved you. But the demons can be driven out if you plan right. But you need not bother about all those tenants you told me about. But you'll have to bring the situation of Mr Sesernans house into Court to work out so desperate a plan."

Yes I know that said George. "But what court would I have to bring it before? I never heard of such things before."

"Any Court our Sawyer can bring the case before. How long such proceedings last depends on the number of witnesses to be questioned, but also Perrod and his sister could return to school during that period or untill vacation time. It was through that Court proceedings that your father won out."

"Does the Court force you to do that?"

"No no We must ask the permission to have Mr Sesernans property placed on trial, and through a lawyer."

"But will it involve Mr Sesernan?"

"Yes, if he wants the demons driven out. He is the defendant."

of his devil possessed property.
 "Would there be an opposing attorney?"
 "No." If there would be he'd be taking sides with the devils. But the ones we engage will do a lot of questioning. Maybe it will also involve the tenants if they can be located, Detective Burns and all those who are helping the little Virriams. Then after that you can carry out the plans which must be made in the Court.

The engagement of a lawyer for that matter was not as easy as expected, for this sort of proceeding seemed to be putting the demons on trial as violent murderers, but finally they secured one who was game enough to try anything.

On May 13th the Court proceedings started and it was something that was to fill the front pages of newspapers every day.

Mr. Jeseman, the defender of his property was also the accuser of the fiends and the first to be called to the witness chair. The little Virriams being there had period to note down every question asked of Mr. Jeseman and Jeseman answers, Came the Sawyer first question.

"When did you buy the grounds Mr. Jeseman?"

"In the month of November 1900"

"When was the erection of the mansion finished?"

"In the month of May 1908"

"I see. When was it possessed?"

"The first tenants who moved in in November 1908 came to me with complaints."

"What were the complaints?"

Mr. Jeseman told him everything that the tenants had complained of about the furniture jumping about, crazy noises, chandelier phenomena and the noise called the Crazy Church Organ & smash."

"Why didn't you report the affair to the priest?"

"I did not believe the tenants - I thought they were drunk."

"Did you not have any suspicion that something may have been very wrong with the old property that you bought?"

"I was warned by some friends but I didn't believe what I called their ghost stories."

"Was it just plain lots you bought or did it have a house on it?"

"It had a three story wooden house on it that the former owner couldn't never rent out for a mysterious reason. It was before I bought the grounds. The building burned down in a mysterious fire which no investigators could solve. I was told strange stories about the grounds and warned by the owner not to buy it but I believed nothing."

"How much did you pay for the grounds Mr. Jeseman?"

"Seventy five thousand dollars."

"Seventy five thousand dollars?"

"Yes"

"Why that's cheap for all that space of ground with those magnificent trees on it. Do you remember the name of the former owner?"

"Yes Hans Christian Anderson. He has a wife and two kids and is part Dane and part German."

"Same name as the great Danish writer. do you his address?"

"Yes at 2100 Halsted Street".

"Does he still live there?"

"Yes sir its his own property".

"Well he, surely, the person that we would want to see".

"I'm here" came the startling answer, and from the rear a tall middle aged gentle man stood up.

"But the judge said:-

"Please wait your turn. Mr Seseeman is not through yet".

The lawyer went on.

"How long was your property possessed Mr Seseeman?"

"From 1908 to this year".

"Nearly five years. But Mr Seseeman it seems very strange to me that you called upon the little Virrains to help you instead of a priest. Why was that?"

"Because they're possessed by angelic spirits".

"Oh is that so?"

"Yes sir".

"Do you suppose the devils would flee just for that?"

"I hoped so. And I believed from what I read and heard about them, they could succeed more better than any priest in the world".

"Do you still believe they could, though up to now the devils have success fully contested every inch of ground against them and every body else?"

"Yes".

"Perhaps you think they know more about devil trouble than

any priest bishop or Cardinal does?" "I do" answered Seseeman coolly. "And they ought to from all their trying experience in my haunted house. And the little Virrains who agreed to help me are the best loving friends God has in all the world, and would surely do anything for him. They agreed to help me because I implored them to, though two of them at my first appeal appeared to think I was a little 'tipsy'".

It was unusually strange really that in spite of everything Pauline, Ileana, Megan and others were killed by the phenomena.

The demon were howling all over the place. And besides the little Virrains wanted to chase out the devils.

They learned all about friends from their experience.

Then why didnt they drive them out before now?"

They met with too much interference.

"Demons cannot be easily driven sir".

"All right Mr Seseeman you may go back to your seat".

The former owner was now called to the witness stand and after he was sworn in the lawyer asked him:-

"Did you know there was anything wrong with the bull building before you sold it to Mr Seseeman?"

"I didnt sell him any building sir. It was only the park like grounds".

"But did you know there was something wrong?"

"Yes sir I did?"

"Then why did you sell the property to Mr. Sesemann?"

"He wouldn't take no for an answer. And besides he wouldn't believe my stories and said I like many other people were superstitious, he was determined to buy."

"What was the most particular thing about the grounds?"

"The strange condition of a giant Elm tree. And certain plants growing too or grew in the form of devils."

"Are you kidding me Mr. Martin?"

"No sir I'm not I can prove it those bushes actually did. And I believe they're still there."

At hearing this Penno and his sisters slyly looked at one another.

"Can you prove that statement Mr. Martin?"

"Yes sir."

"Did you own the house on the grounds before it mysteriously burned down?"

"I did that sir. I lived in it with my wife and child for a year before it burned down."

"Did anything strange occur in the place before the fire?"

"Yes sir, and how."

"We called it the crazy house like Mr. Sesemann. From the first day within a circular area 130 yards in diameter nothing proceeded according to plan. Strange noises occurred and particularly that was like c-l-e-c-k- but louder than a revolver shot and also (The Viriam again looked at each other) it seemed the very laws of nature behaved insanely. Nothing happened they should

the house itself became aslant and every body who entered it walked aslant. Plumb, and clothes lines wouldn't hang true and clothes pins would act like Mexican jumping beans.

Balls rolled with increasing momentum up the slant in one direction by themselves as if propelled by an unseen hand.

Any one who came to see me had a feeling of nausea. And day or night there was an eerie light. Don't ask me why? Scientists declare it was no optical illusion either. But a lot of things happened in and around Crazy house in a the radius of the 130 yard phenomena circle that were unexplained by Scientists or anybody else.

No matter Mr. Sawyer what the rules of Science says heres what happened in and around the Crazy house. A persons body you see would lean at an angle of as much as seven and one half degrees towards the magnetic north which is slightly east of true north.

I had had lots of gages around so people who came to see for themselves may make the tests to find out for themselves, how cockeyed the whole business was.

I operated on the theory that what one sees one believes. For instance I put up a twenty five pound weight suspended as a plumb bob on a rope and found you could easily swing it towards magnetic north. It took a much harder push to send it towards magnetic north.

A plumb line would bulge distinctly in the direction opposite

magnetic north and the bow could not be pulled out. Anything tossed in the air would fall away from the north. A ball on a level table would start rolling swiftly of its own volition, sometimes gaining and sometimes losing speed, except against old devil north.

Sometimes the ball of itself would also rise in the air as if lifted by an unseen hand.

Trees on the property sixty feet away from the building would lean resistingly against the breeze or the strongest wind and birds of any kind wont nest in them. If it rained or snowed the most fell around those trees.

Even your stomach would do hand springs as soon as you would step into the house.

And there was a marked difference in the light. A photographer came at my request one day and made a test with his light meter and discovered to his amazement that it measured sixty five units outside of the phenomena circle.

"We discovered the same thing long ago at Mr. Seemans" whispered Violet to Pernad.

"So did I" he answered.

"I can dare explain it," continued Mr. Martin. "The attraction too was stronger when the moon was full. It was at minimum strength at dawn and grew stronger as the sun grew higher diminishing in the afternoon."

A friend of mine who was a director of the Illinois State Department

of Geology and Mineral Industries came to cast a skeptical eye on even what I then thought was only nature's high jinks.

He went through the whole work strongly determined to deal with them in a scientific way. But he too had to admit that there was something scary.

"I confess" he told me "that whether it was the power of suggestion or your telepathic influence or some psychic quirk, I don't know but it appears to me there might be an infinitesimal tendency to lean Northeast."

As he entered the house with me and took a turn around the suddenly slanting floor I myself then had felt immediately felt a queer sensation, a fleeting dizziness. He was walking at an angle of 45 degrees, with his feet out from under him over to one side. To me the ceiling seemed to be bobbing up and down.

He carried a level with him, and made some measurements. I observed that he was standing anything but vertically, but when I entered the house the illusion persisted.

His answer in my opinion to this, said the Sawyer turning to face the judge and jury "is optically illusory and mental. Our horizon your honor literally and figuratively is level straight streets, square corners vertical poles and fences, buildings level."

"You see" continued Martin "In the case of that house I sold to Hans Christian Anderson everything registered very abnormally optically. Every body who came

to spoof or criticize saw the same thing or more. I hope who rented the place didn't stay long but wouldn't say why though the looks in their faces proved they saw something terrible.

The combination of irregularly would throw your sense of balance out of gear. In trying to compensate for the tendency to lean one way you lean too far the other.

It was often almost impossible for me to walk across the floor at nights. And as soon as I would step on the floor I would feel like something was pulling at my stomach.

I pushed a weight and didn't know which way I was pushing it. It was easy to push one way, but to push the other way I had to brace myself. If I would try to cross the floor I would feel the pull of a mysterious unseen force.

Crazy business what ever it was.

"Why did you sell the property to Hans Christian Anderson?"
"I didn't sell. We exchanged property. He gave me his place and I gave him mine."

"Did the house burn down on him?"

"No on me. I only exchanged grounds with his lots. He used what wood was left of the house to build a fence." "Could you explain the cause of the fire?"

"No sir. It broke out at night and I and my wife and child were in St Joseph's hospital four months for burns. We were rescued by fire men. The fire left no clues whatever."

"Oh I see. Well you may go back to your seat. All right, the next witness."

Then Hans Christian Anderson was sworn in.

"Did you have trouble with the grounds after you bought the property in Anderson?"

"From what neighbors told me sir I thought it a wise policy to keep away after I received the property."

"Could you give us a detail of some of those disturbances?"

"Yes sir. From what I heard of the conversation of the neighbors."

"Well for instance?"

"The Elm tree tallest in the grounds. That tree acted alive and the trunk below the biggest spreading branches would assume the appearance of a face hedious beyond words. That tree is a killer."

"I've heard of that tree. Anything else?"

The neighbors say the tree dances.

"What? say that again. I don't think I heard you right."

"Mr Sawyer I can furnish plenty of proof about that from nearly though I'm not ashamed to say I saw it do it too."

Violet and her sisters looked at each other and almost smiled. "A tree that dances. That must be good" whispered Jennie.

"Anything else?"
Mr Anderson then told how many of the trees would not even move a branch on windy days, would light up strangely at night, but of the Elm if any one approached it would act like a tree in a wild temper though there be not the slightest breeze. He told of the strange fire ball phenomena. How once at night the whole space of grounds appeared as a forest fire yet not with standing nothing was burned or even scorched.

He told of strange lights of many colors at night and of a peculiar howl & piercing cry that came from the direction of the Elm tree. Then he concluded "That's all I know sir."

The lawyer also believed it as he knew it was so.

What then came up in Court was the tragic death of Paulina and the orphan had the attack upon Sally, Elders & Ernodo little heroine and Alice

now adding with the awful phenomena that killed the seven hobos.

There had at first been a lot of talk that little

Paulina & Lannigan might have been strangled and disembowled by a crazed sex moron who dared go into the building after her.

There are certain sex morons who really like to choke children because they really like to see their little tongues sticking out. And also to disembowel from sheer curiosity. And that goes for a certain type of sadist & glandularian soldiery. But during the debate in Court and from the proof of the gas man who came to the Court on a wheel chair, it was sure that the two little girls were killed and gutted by the most terrible phenomena in the haunted mansion.

The gas man had seen quite a few happenings and the Attorney continuing asked him: "Where was she killed, in the basement near the gas meter, or on the first floor hall?"

"On the first floor hall. What ever strangled her came from the hall tree. Her tongue stuck out so far I thought it was going to fall out. I started to her help, when believe it or not some unseen force flung or propelled me from the open front entrance.

I landed on the sidewalk in deep snow uninjured but directly under the Elm tree. A big branch of it grabbed me and I came too in a hospital.

"Didn't you or the little girl know the place was very dangerous?"
 "I don't know whether she did or not but I never heard a thing mentioned about the crazy place, and there was no sign on the gate either."

I then followed at the renewal of the Court proceedings the next day the questioning of the tenants who had received the summons.

All but three gave the same details and others as experienced by Violet and her sisters, especially mentioning how annoyed they had been by the Universal Click, and the Grand Church organ smash.

The others told of the strangeness of their children or attacks on children. Then Detective Burns the Chief of Police and City Commissioner told of their experiences and investigations.

Then the Fire Chief and members of the fire department told of their fighting fire phenomena, to no avail.

Then Pernod and his sister Violet were called upon to give details of their investigations, efforts and experiences.

Violet's testimony is as follows

"Mr. Seeman came to Grace and Angelina to petition their help while I and my other sisters were still in St. Joseph's Hospital. They told us of their interview

with him but at first we were very skeptical and firmly believed his tenants were either a little crazy or had that trouble that comes from drinking too much whiskey and beer we know as delirium tremens.

Nevertheless we went to see if it was true, all of us, and spent a night there. That first night he proved his story true. Then she told of everything that happened from that time on until John Scanlon came to help them and of the progress he made.

He didn't leave out anything she and all with her went through and even let the judge see through their diary to prove it. He looked through it carefully.

What the lawyer wondered most exceedingly was why the demons by the phenomena strangled and gutted little girls, and not the few boys killed in the building.

"Miss Violet" he said: "From the way it was mentioned in the papers that the two little girls did an idea came to me that soldiers of your enemy Glandelina kill little girls in the same way. Perhaps couldn't it be that lost souls of dead murdering Glandelians could have caused that?"

"I could answer yes and then no too on that question" answered Violet. Besides we know little about the affair as we were away at the time

But we have heard from some witnesses that something to a phenomena in the form of half woman and half bird killed Paulina who killed the orphan but no one knows.

"Do you know who the witnesses were?"

"I do not know his name or address but I'll always remember his face."

"Could it be possible he did it and used that story as an alibi?" was the startling question.

"No indeed. His innocence could be proven. And he was not the only witness. Three others saw the same thing, two being children and what they told was the same. Their description did not vary."

"But," said the lawyer, "it is said demons never killed anybody."

"No but instrumentally they can cause your death through dangerous phenomena, by causing people to kill others and many other things."

"I can prove the phenomenon that killed little Paulina," cried a woman way in back.

"How?" demanded the lawyer.

"You wouldn't believe it possible sir but I was near the front entrance with a camera and I took and developed the picture."

"What?" cried the lawyer.

She repeated what she said adding: "And I've got the camera and also the developed picture and negative with me. And it's a horrible picture."

"Let's see it just the same?" demanded the lawyer.

The woman produced both the photograph and negative, and the lawyer gasped as he gazed at something the like of which he had never set eyes on before. He only ejaculated "oh my Gaud" and with pale face and shaking hand handed it to the judge to see, who gave once glance dropped it to the bench and started shaking in his shoes.

"Miss did you actually snap that photograph at the scene of the horrible phenomenon?" demanded the lawyer.

"Yes sir."

"Have you no photograph in color?" "No sir. The developer was afraid to do it."

"What color was that horrible apparition?"

"Curious like color except the wings which was vermillion. There was something like a streamer of cloth from the head but it appeared like yellow shimmering fire."

In the photograph there was also little naked Paulina being strangled with eyes bulging and tongue protruding far out but the child was suspended in the air, but there could be seen nothing like any hands

of the horrid creature around the child's neck as its terrible arms were positively suspended like church arms on the cross supporting the vermillion colored wings.

It was indeed a horrible and most strange photograph.

"How tall was the apparition?" asked the lawyer, astonished at the unusual smallness of the child compared to the phantom.

"It appeared to be between fifteen and eighteen feet tall."

"Fifteen feet?"

"Positive."

"After this the photograph was shown to the jury each man who gazed at the sight of it. When Pennod and his sisters observed it Jennie told the judge and jury that it greatly resembled the heinous apparition at Collier Junction that caused the deaths of one boy and five girls by strangulation before she and her sisters could save them.

"It was fifteen feet tall there" she said "and the same shape but crimson red all over, wings included?"

It however seemed one of the main topics was the cause of the terrible conflagration that started at Mrs Bridget Flannigan's house at the same time a fire phenomenon raged at Desermain.

We do not know how it really started declared Jennie. We went to see a stage show at St Michael's school hall that evening and as it was very late when we came out we went to

our old residence on the southeast corner of Adams and Halsted. We didn't even know of the fire until we came down there at eleven o'clock that morning and found we were burned out of house and home.

It was also thought the Flannigans were perished in the fire but they were away in New York City at the time and didn't come back until two months later.

"Were you and your sisters reported to have perished in the fire?" asked the lawyer.

"Yes indeed" answered Jennie.

Where the Flannigans?"

"Yes."

"Did the demons start the fire or someone else?"

"There is full evidence that the demons did."

"Why did they do it?"

"To try and burn me, my brothers and sisters."

"Why didn't the fire burn into the room wherein you and your brother and sisters slept in?"

"It was the direction of the draught that caused it to rush through other parts of the house and miss our room."

"Why did the demons wish to burn you all?"

"Because we are trying to drive them from Mr Desermain's house."

"They could have destroyed you all by a fire phenomenon instead of burning Mrs Flannigan's place." said the lawyer. "They made fierce fire phenomena in the Desermain."

house. How come they didn't trap you by those fire phenomena?"
 "I don't think they had a chance to" said Jennie.
 "I'm afraid they will yet" declared the lawyer in a worried tone of voice.
 "Not if we have our wits about us" she said decidedly.

"Wasn't the fire at the Flannigans investigated?" he asked.

"Yes. They continued the investigation for five days and two weeks but found no clues. They thought gasoline was the cause but no one sold or missed gasoline any days before."

"And the fire started on the main front porch?"

"Yes."
 "Was it not some angelic instinct that caused you little Virrains to be elsewhere that dreadful night?"

"It might have been. You see we observed an advertisement in a Catholic Church (a) bulletin a show called 'The Life of Jesus as a boy' and we wouldn't miss such a good show for anything. We on returning home on Halsted and Adams saw the red glare in the sky to the west but as we're not much fire fans we went directly to bed. You see we seldom read news papers as we do not care for them and also have not the time and as we bought none or saw none we knew nothing of the fire until we came back in that location

and saw the fire still raging in the factory and other buildings and the fire departments busy. It was a stubborn fire and as we thought the fire at first was set by spies to get us we had the Arson Squad investigate it. They themselves said the fire was done by devils."

"If the barn-keepers started the fire without materials of any kind then how did they accomplish it?" asked the lawyer.

"They might have used the fire phenomena" declared Jennie. "but they must have worked different in Flannigans than in Sesemans."

"How?"

"Why you see it this way. In Sesemans house when they have a fire going this way, they may use their supernatural power so the flames no matter how destructive they are cannot burn or destroy Sesemans house. But they did not protect Mrs Flannigans house that way."

"What detectives tried to find out the cause?"

"Burns, Wentworth and Sebastian."

"Did they say it was caused by a fire phenomena?"

"No they blame a mixture of kerosene and gasoline."

"But where could the demons get hold of both?"

"I do not know" Jennie admitted reluctantly "no one selling it lost any by sale or theft."

"But demons could deceive" declared the lawyer. "They could cause a smell of kerosene and gasoline when none was

there."

"But I don't see how it could be done" she confessed.

Mrs. Flannigan who also was in the Court testified of what she knew before the fire and then the next day the jury brought in the verdict that the demons were guilty of murderous misdeeds and the judge passed the sentence that the demons must be driven from Mr. Seseemann's house at all costs.

The boy made immediate preparations for his plans though nobody had any faith they would work.

He brought the matter before all his friends the next day wondering however if they would agree to it. He said:

"This is my first plan. To go back to school till vacation time live some where else and pretend to abandon Mr. Seseemann's house to its fate. Do this until vacation time, that will be twenty eight days. And I'm sure that will throw the demons off guard.

After vacation starts we'll all return and take them by surprise. Your helpers who are not priests must live near by. And the priests themselves must resume their own active duty. How is that?"

At first Violet and her sisters and Pernod hesitated to reply. They did not like the idea of delay at all for fear the demons would gain ground by it, but then they felt sure by the very looks of John that he knew best and his plan might surely win.

Well what do you think Violet

dear?" asked Pernod.

"We can give his plan a good try out" she answered. "If it don't succeed, then, then there's no chance whatever of defeating the Banshees, and we'll have to leave the house to its fate. We can see the principal of the school to-morrow to renew our work."

"For one I do not approve of the plan" said Webber George who in his heart greatly feared the demons would gain all the ground once more. "And besides it is said you can't fool any of the devils as one or two of them follows us always wherever we go."

"In one way, that is so if we are not crafty enough" admitted John "but with God's help we could outwit the awful demons. They're not everything no matter what their power. If Pernod and his sisters agree the plan goes through."

"We don't exactly agree as yet" declared Pernod "but we'll risk the chance and see how it works. If we can't win ourselves nobody else can."

The principal of the Skimmer school was glad to see the little Virram who went there, but the Mother Superior of St. Patrick's was a new one as Sister Catherine had been sent away to be a missionary in some country.

The new Mother Superior had never seen or heard of Angelina before and the child's unnatural beauty, flighty action, the strange mess of her golden hair, the unnatural perfect beauty of her form and grace so awed the Sister

that she ran from the office in terror believing she had seen a spirit from another world. Father Carney however was able to vouchsafe for Angeline, so that the new Mother Superior was able to overcome her fright, and allow Angeline most graciously to re-continue school until vacation time.

At that Angeline was considerably offended, and greatly annoyed, because neither she nor her sisters ever like to be mistaken for ghosts, which is a serious offense to them.

Sister Dorothy was still there and so were the same class of children many of whom were slightly jealous of Angeline.

Sister Dorothy realized the cause of her returning to school but knew it was wise to keep silent. Though most of the children were slightly jealous they were her friends just the same and very glad to see her come back.

But the real peculiar part of it was the demon did not at all suspect the purpose of the little Virriams or of the plan and therefore were not so awfully wise after all.

They too can be fooled once in a while. And despite what had gone on Pennod and his sisters had not let themselves slip behind in their studies as they were able to prove to their kind easy going teachers which was a great surprise to them, who looked upon the little

Virriams as miraculous quiz kids. The first few days proved uneventful enough except for out of season hot weather, and lively like summer storms out of proportion for that time of year, which did not keep them from school.

True to the word nevertheless the demons were getting suspicious, whether they knew what was up or not, and cowards as they were did not dare do anything further as any one thought, but left the place in the same condition as it was when John decided upon the plan.

But they did send spirits to spy on the little Virriams to find out something but to no avail as Pennod and his sisters went about their business as if anything concerning Mr. Seesman was a thing of the pass.

Strange to say also the queer angelic instinct of the little girls gave them some inward warning that fiends are spying on them and therefore they were more cautious than ever.

Most of the kids in school did pry questions to them about what had happened at and in Seesman's 'Crazy house' but they had answered only to what went on and what they did but did not say anything about their plans.

The children unwardly feared that the demons and their following might come into the very school and start a lot of trouble to spite the little

Virvians, which would have been the case had the demons known their plans.

In the afternoon of the third day back to school the little Virvians got a surprise just as soon as they arrived at the old place 201 Halsted Street.

At the very entrance Detective Burns was waiting with two policemen.

"I'm glad you're returning home from school," he said. "I inquired for you inside but the landlady told me you were still at school. Some one from your country had learned what you were doing here and having known about the house at Sese mans and more so at Mc Call's Burn, and what you did there, came over here to see you. As he could not find out where you lived and as I could not locate you at Sese mans, I was directed here."

"Where is he at?" asked Violet. "That man is coming just now at the Plaza Hotel at Clark and North Ave. He'd like to see you as soon as you can get there. He asked us to accompany you as a body guard against the spirits as demons may secretly follow us."

"Are you sure the demons may follow us?" asked Violet.

"I'm afraid so to learn why that Abbe Annan friend of yours came to see you."

"I'll use Holy Water every where in the room to keep them away," she said. Bernad brought their school books up stairs then they went with the detective chief to the Drake Hotel.

The Hotel Clerk directed them to Room 48 where the man was waiting. Burns knocked and a very tall man with a mandrake the magazine like face opened the door, and most graciously admitted them.

To the surprise of the Prince and Princesses it was the famous Gemini Society Seader Hendro Margarus in person.

He politely bowed to the Royal Children and waving them to chairs and after the words of welcome and so on, said:

"I heard all about what is going on here and came to help you and your friends."

He spoke in good English. Detective Burns was about to go but the man said:

"No you must stay and help and as the Emperor mentioned you have a part in it too."

So Burns (left) but stayed but the policemen not being needed left.

"To your father the Emperor we send for me," said Mr Margarus. "I remember your tough fight with the evil spirits at Mc Call's Burn the farm house at Colles Junction. It took you three weeks to drive them out of there. Your father taking up your suspicion

that the demons you drove out from there came over to Sesemann, sent me an urgent request to investigate that farm and see if the demons had still remained out. The place had a fire and is badly scorched the (owner) owner losing everything so that's out for the demon matter how long were you at Mr. Sesemann investigating and fighting?

"Nine months and twelve days"

And many of the phenomena were the same at Sesemann as at the farm house as your father stated. And are you sure the apparitions you observed, were Judas, Martin John Suther, Henry the Eight and Jaten?

"Not positive" answered Pen-rod "We firmly believe some demons took these forms as they have tremendous transformation powers"

"Exactly" declared Mr. Dargarius and the apparition that forms like a naked half woman and its lower part like a bird? Who or what is that?

"I believe its Apollyon" answered Violet "He is the Chief prince of devils and transforms himself."

"Positively" burst out Dargarius "I know all about those demons the devils of the Collins farm house

are in Mr. Sesemann's. This startling announcement surprised them all even though they all had suspicions of that.

"Do you mean that all the demons from there came into Sesemann's?" asked Angelina

"Yes indeed"

"Only them, then possess Mr. Sesemann's house?"

"No they added their number to the spirits that were there for years. But one I believe" he added "though difficult, its much easier to drive evil spirits out of a person, than it is to drive them out of a house, and the bigger the house the harder the job."

"I know that" everyone answered, "I suspect more than a thousand possess the place at Mr. Sesemann's mansion as the building is very large four stories high counting the cellar attic."

"What else makes it so difficult to drive them out?" asked Mr. Dargarius. "You won an easy victory at Mc Call's Run"

"I think" put in Grace "the demons are unnaturally stubborn, or our Dear Blessed Lord wants them to remain for some reason of His Holy Will, which will be done and..."

"Stop right there" said Dargarius "That He wants them to remain your badly yes sadly mistaken."

"I can easily feel that it may be His Holy Will to sanctify you more by trying your faith in Him, though He and I know

you wont be found wanting. That the demons are unnaturally stubborn you're right But the main cause of it is the phenomena they work. Those get you upset and repulse you. Your father copied all the phenomena you put down in your diary and they astonish me not only by the fact that nearly all were the same as at Collis Junction except a great number of extra ones were added but that you stood through the ordeal of the worst and most dangerous ones.

Yet I cannot understand the order of turning rooms and halls bottom upwards, on the Grand Church Organ Smash noise. The only ones not added in the Diary list were the facial pillow phenomenon and the head floating head.

"We did see that seven and four times more seven nights and four days" put in Angelina. We forgot to put that in our Diary. We were so excited."

"How does that apparition appear?" he asked.

"The head is only visible the evil spirit trying to trick us but we at day can see his whole shape declared Violet. "The crazy thing is naked. I or my sisters from memory can sketch the

shape of its wings." "Do so" said Dargarius. He did.

"It's like the wings of a bat" he commented. "Does not the neck appear as if the head is cut off?"

"No in fact it appears like it was attached to a long woman like neck whole and entire there being no appearance as if the head was ever cut off from the body."

"What does the head look like?"

"It looks like the head of the demon apollyon in the Pilgrims Progress and appears as big as a big barrel."

"How does it vanish that lion mounted imp?"

"It goes when we make the sign of the cross and reciting the words 'In the name of the Father Son and Holy Ghost Amen'."

"Do you think John's plan will work" asked Gerrie.

"Yes but you'll have to take surely a most desperate and dangerous chance and

I and all your friends with you. Why did Mr. Beseman ask you to help turn in this trouble, instead of employing members of the priest hood?"

"He never told us" said Catherine. "but I know he has heard a lot about us and believed we could drive the evil spirits out better than the priests could but I'm afraid so far we made no progress what

ever. The demons defied us at every hand and drove us out of the house and even the grounds a dozen of times. The only thing we had real deadly fear of is the fire phenomenon.

The fire phenomenon?

"Yes" Did they chase you away too?

"Yes" (make) "maybe its a fake like the one at Collis Junction" he suggested "and they drove you out before you know what the fire is."

"No no" said Violet "I know the fire phenomenon at Collis Junction which was on a Friday afternoon wouldn't hurt nobody and was easily stopped. Not everybody saw it, and to those in side the building, didn't appear to be on fire at all. But at Reseman's its real fire, throws a terrible heat and gives forth the blackest smoke blacker than burning tar, or any oil can make."

"Well fire eh?"

"It seems to be from the smoke it makes"

"Why does not the building burn?"

"I believe either two things" she continued "either the building demons use a tremendous power that prevent the building from burning or the structure is partially fire proof."

"Does not the fire scorch anything that can burn?"

"At the first time it did. Oh yes. The wooden furniture, carpets and window curtains. The window curtains were burned all away and we lost all we brought into the place of our own including valuable books, fine clothing and nearly our lives. Wooden partitions in the house were scorched or paint blistered. After that other fire phenomenon scorched nothing despite the terrible heat. Yet we dared to sleep in the building."

"So I heard. Did you ever ask Mr. Reseman if the house is fire proof?"

"No we never thought of that. But the fire phenomenon rages long enough to burn any building down its size and gives a strong luminescence and in the naturally black smoke. The fire seems to throw a heat unlike fire of our own kind."

You mean it appears very much hotter? Positively a hundred fold hotter and the flames are awfully bright at night, blood red by day.

"That fire phenomenon must be looked into" said Dargarius "didn't it ever occur when you people were in the building?" Yes and we just had to fly out as escaping is termed and we just got out in time."

"We've got to find out if the building is fireproof" he said "because I believe we can work against the demons through the fire phenomenon. Break that up and we'll have them. Did the fire phenomenon ever bring the fire department? Every time it broke out?"

"Yes every time. They had to protect adjoining properties and period. But what ever they used they couldn't put it out. It went out by its own accord."

"What is that awful loud cry that is heard at times?" Demons do that."

"To forget about the phenomenon fires for a while how do the demons manage to make the thin gas or electric pipe sections of the chandeliers wrap around peoples throats and strangle them?"

"We never could find that out" said all of them together. "But next to the fire phenomenon that one is the most dangerous. They'll even reach down for you."

"Do you know the plans the boy has laid up?"

"Yes. We are carrying the first one out now by going to school and pretending we are leaving Mr. Sese's house to its fate."

"How long going to school?" "Until vacation time."

"Aunt—that too long to delay continued fighting?"

"He does not think so."

"Well do as he says and advises and to morrow morning? and Burns here will pay a visit to the outside premises of Sese's house. Burns told me he would bring me there in his car. I'll see you after school to morrow. Your Country is interested in what goes on over here and wants you to win."

The next morning during school period and his sisters pursued his studies as if nothing unusual had happened.

They even put their whole mind on their work seeming to forget about poor Mr. Sese's house altogether. After school at the appointed time Mr. Dargarius came to where the brave little Virriams lived and when the whole family were seated about the conference table he said:

"I have solved the problem of the situation. That building is the largest I've ever seen for a mansion, are the grounds are a big park, a quarter the size of the Sunnyside park here. I sized up the whole property and that large Elm tree is the craziest thing I've ever laid eyes on."

The cause of the difficulty is the size and extent of the property I even dared enter the grounds with Burns and named through the building. You know during the loud

heavy thunderstorm early this afternoon everything was crazily wrong in the house and property and things occurred that even you Royal ones wouldn't even believe. The property is in very bad shape and outside in the ground during the worst crack of thunder the demons let loose a most great noise.

I after learning went with Burns to see Mr. Reseman. We questioned him a whole lot about the time of the construction of the building, the tenants and other things. He said it is not fire proof as he couldn't get the material. So the demons work a miracle in keeping the demons from destroying the place though I don't see how they do it.

I asked Mr. Reseman what got into his head to cause him to have such a large mansion erected and he said it was his wife doing before she was killed in an automobile accident just after the building was furnished. Just to hear what he would say I suggested that the size of the building and extent of the grounds were to all extent a great advantage to the evil spirits but he firmly does not believe so.

Since he understands you have not succeeded so far he has lost faith and intends to order

the building destroyed by fire or dynamite but I told him the demons won't let him do it, as it was proven people before, who attempted it wouldn't dare so much as think of trying it again, as Burns told me and him.

I told him also how much I know you little ones of this famous Royal family and that you are very, very far from being the giving up kind. And that you hang to a purpose as stubbornly as leeches.

I told him further that you are badly needed back at our own country for it needs us and therefore we have to hasten this affair even if we have to use the most drastic methods against the demons.

I saw your friend and helper John Scanlon to day, and when I told him about your affair at Collis Junction he said something to me that surprised me greatly.

He believes you should use that same method you did at the Collis Junction farm house. He said he knows what street that is to find a vacant old house that is the exact size and shape, the same in height, and that one has room probably in the same order and wishes you to reenact the scene there to see how it was done.

"No sir, not with the Paloo" admonished Violet severely.

"No no, he don't mean that" said Danyarius. That is not so necessary and I know it would be profanity. Just demonstrate how it was done. By that method he'll learn much

better he wants you to do it with me with you this early evening. Do you remember how you did it?"

"Yes we do. But the place has to be the same light and room arranged the same way to do it correctly."

"He says there is no need to demonstrate by prayers"

"Yes but a few prayers wouldnt hurt!" smiled Jennie. "We'll go there and demonstrate. But will we be allowed admission into the place?"

"It belongs to the lady uncle and he can get permission and the entrance key" answered Dargarius.

After eighteen minutes on the Halsted Street car northward bound they got off at Webster Avenue. John had the key and he said:

The house is not far from here and is east down the street at Orchard. Come on quick?

They followed him until they came to Orchard Street. There was a long two story white painted house of wooden construction so well cared for that it didnt look old at all. It stood on the northwest corner with the entrance and veranda facing Orchard Street. It had a big wooden barn as high as the house itself at the rear, and trees on the Orchard and Webster Street side. "I hate it" he said point-

ing. "We've just got time to demonstrate this evening as tenants will move in to morrow."

"The house is not as long as the one at Collin Junction" said Violet. "but it will do if the interior fits the same"

He sprinted up the steps followed by the whole Virian family and Dargarius. The bay door opened in a jiffy and they went in. After a short inspection of the lower and upper floor Violet admitted with the approval of her sisters that the rooms were exactly alike the same size and the same number.

"We didnt start the fight against the demons in that place right away" said Violet. "When pa and us entered and took possession of it as our military headquarters there was then no sign of anything wrong at all."

We were taken by surprise. When the first things occurred (and she explained the manifestations from the start until the fight began) we didnt do anything for a time until some of us nearly got killed by pillars that smothered us, attacked by a Chandelier and of the time of the unnatural sized floating head.

We asked the troop of priests but they got repulsed by fierce and dangerous manifestations.

We sent for the Palo and while we were waiting for it to arrive we experienced worse phenomena than ever

and an Elm tree outside killed people who were under it. The Paloo arrived a week after it was sent for and so now suppose this is the hour. See that big chandelier up there?"

Yes.
"Well there was one big one there in the center of the hall and as we passed under it with two other little girls and a five year old boy the lower portions of the thing acted alive like those do at Mr. Serrano, reached down for us and almost strangled us to death. The three others were flung violently to the floor and killed."

That decided us. Now pa and ma dear and you Mr. Dargarius and John, stand over there so you can see what we do to start."

They obeyed.
"At the end of the room we set up the Paloo and started work against the demons. We were held at bay at first by a terrible phenomenon but we stubbornly stuck to our post and after a days fight cleared the room. Now follow us, but slowly."

They obeyed.
Then suiting the action to their words and demonstrating by movements almost in military drill what they did Violet went on. We closed in on them driving them to the adjoining bath room and then collaring them

in that room to the right forcing them out somehow and flew towards the hall then while two of us hung crucifixes to the walls and then remained to see that the enemy didn't get back up here the rest of us "suiting the action to their words" by leading them out into the hall. We fought them desperately down the hall and crowded them down the steps."

They caused a phenomenon hoping to throw us and the Paloo down the steps but did not catch us napping. On the second floor we demonstrated the same way but in a reverse direction. We cannot do it here as this house is two stories, that one was three."

On the ground floor they gave us the fiercest resistance for a week so that at first we made no headway what ever. But priests said mass for us at the same time we fought daily masses and we finally won. Then we worked on the Elm tree outside."

That took us two weeks."
As Violet was speaking however she showed them what was done.

She had plain water in glasses and from the edge of the room on the top floor she and her sister spreading out one of them "pushing" a chair as a "Paloo" slowly worked

themselves to the other end, and then making a sort of crowding movement closed in at one side room and then demonstrating as if pushing the Paloo to the other blocked it. Then they suddenly retreated as if paralytic Violet saying after which "we flared at us" Jennie threw a chemical and it going out we closed on it again. Then they concentrated making a mock attack at another room and thence working out into the hall made a general slow charge down the hall towards the stairs. Here Angel one having the chain suddenly threw it violently on its side to the floor. "In overthrowing the Paloo said Violet the spirits thought they had us but it too (strongly) strongly made to be injured in any way. They did it to our Paloo first time to no avail. The action was the same in the lower rooms of the hall but in a reverse direction. Then they headed for the stairs. By their demonstrations they showed that the resistance of the evil spirits was especially severe in the hall and more so on the stairs and that they had been driven back into the nearest room several times. As Violet stated a phenomenon

appeared that made the stairs seem to turn into some huge withering monstrous snake but when this did not daunt them knowing it to be a fake, the demons used some mysterious force to try to throw them down the steps and hurl the Paloo down on top of them.

When this failed as she said, the steps appeared in a mass of flames and afterwards appeared covered with myriads of small black withering objects, but they worked themselves down the steps.

The action was the same in the lower rooms but in a reverse direction. They then explained a lot of other things they did in the house and then Dargrue said:

"Why didn't you try that trick out in Mr. Sesemann's house?" "That seems impossible declared Violet. You understand the interior of the big house is much unlike that place at Mc-Calls Run. Mr. Sesemann has a very wide long corridor on every floor and there are seven or eight big rooms on the first and third floor not counting the bedroom and the washing-bath room.

The second has eleven rooms added with the large domed ceiling dining room.

There are not enough of us little Virgins to work it in that way. In fact we tried that thrice and it did not work. "The house is too large for that de

clared Perrod, "for my sisters really tried it three times. Each flight to the floors has sixty steps, very long broad ones and the second floor itself has eleven rooms."

Dargarius puzzled with John Scanlon privately late that afternoon over the matter but finally the boy said firmly:—

"I still positively think that my plan will work out in the face of all odds and difficulties. There's nothing now that can thwart it whether the old devils know it or not. Those demons in Seseemann's house are only a pack of cowards and can be worsted if any person in the State of Grace knows how. I did not tell the plan or need not even tell it. I drew it out on a sheet of paper instead. If it does not work then the conclusion of Mr Seseemann's house is hopeless, and we might as well give it up but I know we'll succeed."

"But why do you want to hold out on it until School vacation starts?"

"Because it will throw the evil spirits off guard I hope and besides unknown to anybody we've got to prepare the stuff at home that the devils or any other kind of evil spirits would not like to contact with. And I hope on the first day of the renewal of the fight a great big thunder storm

comes up."

"Would that help any?" asked Mr Dargarius.

"I'm positive. It is said demons are afraid of lightning. I heard some one say to you" declared Dargarius "that if alone the little Verran parading through the building nude, but unseen by any one would drive the demons out as they cannot tolerate naked bodies of children."

"At first I did suggest that to them," admitted John calmly. "They positively said 'No,' and told the reason why. They once tried to take a bath in the place not knowing things were so awfully bad. And added that if 'naked as they were if Perrod hadn't rushed in on hearing their cries for help something terrible would have happened to them. That was the cause of the Orphan child's death. Naked bodies of children in a house like Seseemann infuriates the demons to rank madness."

"I thought it would be dangerous," said Dargarius. "Naked children in a ~~possessed~~ house no matter how holy or bad they are only draw the attack of demons on them. It does not drive them out."

"Was rudeness the cause of Pauline Flannigan's death?" John asked.

"No, she entered the house with a gas inspector during the winter time. The phenomenon derided her as it killed her and flung her dead galled body over the top of a large easy chair."

in a room adjoining the hall."
 "I was wondering" said John, "if Pennod and his sisters could not do the same thing in Mr Sesernans as in the Mc Culler Run house, and use some of their light colored uniformed girl friends as reinforcements in the other rooms!"

"Why?"

"That is a part of my plan."

"But Pennod said these kids have to be extra children as diligent and holy as his sisters are otherwise the demons would frustrate all their efforts and grow worse."

The next day Violet and her sisters were earlier than usual at school, while lesson were on Violet was called to the telephone in the Principals office.

She was surprised that it came from Mr Sesernan himself came the words from him:-

"Is this you Princess Violet?"

"Yes"

"If you can will you and your sisters with Pennod and the boy John come to my house where I live. To day after school is out?"

"Yes I believe we could make it after supper."

"Never mind the supper my dear" he called back "you can eat it with me and my sister."

"We will be over" answered Violet wondering exceedingly what was up."

I thought Pennod and her

sisters looked at her inquiringly as she returned to her seat she said nothing until recess time.

"Something is strange" said Pennod "did he say why he called?"

"Yes he did, I there, something wrong at his possessed house."

"Blasphemous blooming luck" cried Pennod

It was a long street car ride towards Mr Sesernans residence on the far north side and it was near two hours after they left home before they arrived there.

In answer to the door bell, the maid came and admitted them.

"Is Mr Sesernan in?" asked Violet.

"I received a phone call from him."

"No he is not just now. He is gone out" answered the maid. "I know he called you up but he'll be back. He told me to ask you to wait until you came."

They were ushered into the big handsome living room, where Grandma Sesernan, as his sister is called by many children was reclining in a big sofa reading a large book. She quickly arose as she saw them giving them a very cordial welcome.

"He is expecting you" she said.

"He received a telephone call himself, that's why he called you. It is proven there's no one at his crazy house, but he was called up from there. He has gone to see Perry to ask him to have that call traced."

Four minutes after Pennod and his

sisters came Mr Sesernan returned and with Detective Burns

"Why did they call you up from your crazy house to play a trick on you?" "Not likely, but theres something else wrong," they heard him say. "The little Virvians have a new boy helping them, and he suggested they lay off fighting the devils until Vacation time comes and trick the evil spirits into believing they have abandoned the fight altogether. The demons are onto their scheme, and frankly told me so, but with language that would make the worst blasphemy blush and turn red."

He and Burns were standing on the threshold of the entrance as they spoke.

"What time did the phone call come?" asked Burns.

"Ten thirty in the morning. I called the little Virvians after dinner time. I believe they must be here by now. Set go in. I am anxious to see them and right now."

He entered hastily and striding into the living room greeted Penrod and his sisters warmly and then told them all about the telephone call not knowing they had already heard his conversation.

"I tried to trace the call, but couldn't," added Detective Burns.

"The telephone operator knew of the strange call but couldn't trace it as she said according to the location it after all

didn't come from Mr Sesernan's house but elsewhere. But whoever called informed Mr Sesernan that the evil spirits know all your intentions, though I do not know how they do."

"Well if they do that don't discourage us or do them any good, does it sisters dear?" asked Penrod.

"Not at all," they said in unison. Violet added alone, "We can beat them at their own game in time. Let them know our plans."

While they were at supper with the Sesernans Violet asked:

"Wasn't your property ever possessed before your building was raised?"

"I was told it was sometime after I discovered the trouble. When tenants convinced me I first had the idea some pranks or mischievous persons were themselves doing all the mischief and causing the disturbances to have fun by scaring the tenants and had the place investigated. I don't know why the devils are there but they are."

"And demanded Violet do you want us to give it up?"

"For your own sakes? Believe I do."

"Are you discouraged?" put in Angeline.

"No," he answered, "but you are running too much risk as the demons are proving and they have shown everyone they can't be easily

driven out:

Violet and her sisters slyly looked at each other

"I'm sorry said Daisy but I know from this that you my dear Mr. Seesman do not know us as we know ourselves. Only death will prevent us. It is true we are possessed by angels and we are like angels therefore

Angels are not quitters neither are we no matter what we had to accomplish no matter what the difficulty we faced or the great danger encountered we never gave up and we never failed. If we did give up which we don't remember it was the cause of some one else. I fear you are discouraged in us and really losing faith in our ability to drive your enemies out with the help of God"

"No I'm not" he answered somewhat hesitantly but truthfully "But you little girls have been at this a long time already and I do know you nationally and that more than anything else you love of your country makes you desire soon to return. Therefore I have no right what ever to expect you to over stay your time here when the french want give up. So I believe it wise to give it up and leave my property to its fate" "We couldn't stop now

without the advice of Father Casey and Casey" declared. Jennie, "If you really want us to give up the place to the mercy of the devils you're acting foolish not wise and remember the people of the neighborhood. They blame you for all this and God help you if you give it up now"

"Why do all the people blame blame me?" asked Mr. Seesman in a worried tone. "I didn't invite those evil spirits into my property, and I'm sure and always felt sure if little girls like you cannot help me clear my house no-body else can"

"I know what I heard" answered Pennod the neighbors around the district claim you rented the big mansion to devil worshippers and declare that caused it and blame all of that on you. I know and so does my sister know from investigation it is not true, but they can't be convinced to anything else.

The dreadful disturbances of your house has well nigh ruined many home owners financially because tenants have left in their fright or annoyance no one would rent the places and they finally were forced to flee themselves. They blame you and would sue if they had proven grounds against you. So it's far wiser for you not to give up. At least we won't for we never give up against devils and it would be very dangerous for us to do so.

And I'll tell you why. I've read of persons giving up in their fights against demons, and the evil spirits afterwards followed and tormented them wherever they went. But why did the banshees send you that strange phone call if it came as it did admitting the friends know our secret?

"That I do not know" answered Mr. Seserman. "But I've heard that if demons are in a building as far away as New York City and you're here in my house you cannot keep a secret from them." "If we cannot keep a secret from them then what good is making plans?" asked Violet of Pernod.

"That's up to John's decision when he hears of this" answered their brother.

But no obstacle is going to make us give up" declared Violet. "If we do we are liable to be the laughing stock of every Christian nation in this world including our own."

"That sure is likely admitted Pernod. But this is really a strange situation. We were asked even pleaded to by the United States Government to come over here from our war torn country to our destroy or capture Glandelinian spies operating here."

When we accomplish that mission then were next fighting unseen devil spirits. Glandelinians and evil spirits. What next?

"What will be the result if we

win out?" demanded Angelina. "I suppose we'll be 'heroine saints' declared Catherine. "When we first came over here we were looked on by many as little nobodies." "And still are added Jennie. "Where did you get that 'we were'?"

"We'll have to tell John about this telephone call and Dargarius too" continued Pernod. "We'll let them decide in this matter."

They bade Mr. Seserman good bye and hastened to the car to get home.

John was not surprised at their information and he said:-

"I suspected that. Let them go to heck. I don't care if they know our secret or not, for with God's help they'll not thwart us and I'm going to put it through when school vacation comes, and we'll show them something. I'll bet before June is gone we'll be celebrating our victory and this is the 27 of May."

"Are you sure the demons couldn't hinder us even if they know our plans?" demanded Angelina.

"Positively no. I'm almost glad they know our plans as we'll have all the more fun. But please do not go near the place until the day comes for the working of our plan."

The next day at school they passed sort of languidly as the day was very warm. It was 95° in the shade. Though the little Virgin girls did not like the winter, they were not crazy about hot weather either and therefore felt it tedious

as good as they were in studying the lessons they so strongly desired to learn. While on their way home slowly because of the heat Violet said to John.

"How would the demons act in Mrs. Resemans' house during that weather? Did your book ever explain that?"

"Yes" they don't do anything extra, as it don't bother them" he answered, "But they do re-act during a thunder storm. That would be the day for the working of the plans. I wish we had one now!"

"One what?"

"Thunderstorm" Are you little girls scared of thunderstorms?"

"Oh yes indeed very much" said Violet smiling slyly. "We are as afraid of thunderstorm as we are of a nice dish of ice cream."

"Oh I see. I'll pay for it" said John.

They went into a corner drug store and while they were enjoying the dish of ice cream John told of his father's experience in fighting evil spirits - how he worked against them and said "he would try the same stunt."

"But if we only had a good thunderstorm, I could start some thing. Could you tell when one is coming girls?"

"Yes" said Violet. "I heard - be a cumulous (cumul) nimbus cloud towering vertically, or sheeted while forming horizontally along its advancing front. But the only clouck (cloud) to day in the sky is cirrus and a

few alto stratus".
"A thunderstorm would be a great help to us" he said.

"But how could that be?" demanded Pennod. "We never heard of thunderstorms making demons afraid."

"I don't say they actually make demons afraid but they're liable to cause them to set up some sort of commotion that will enable me to find a way to outwit them."

"Does the storm have to be very severe?" asked Violet.

"Not exactly. Any kind will do but come its near time for supper and we don't want to keep them waiting."

At the time they reached home and prepared for supper another surprise is in store for them.

"I've got strange if not discouraging news for you" said Evans in allbreannish to Violet who with her sisters were surprised to see him there. "It's got so nobody can stay in Resemans' 'crazy' house. They even drove me out."

"That does seem discouraging" replied Pennod. "The demons are doing that because we are not there. I wish a thunder storm would come. We'd race it to Resemans' crazy house believe me!"

The weather man says we're going to have one to night" said John who had brought the Daily News.

"Oh yeah" exclaimed Violet. "The weather man knows as much of the weather as I do of the

Geography of the Moon!"
 "After supper though" said Jennie
 we can sit on the porch and watch
 if such a storm will be in sight.
 Then if it is heading towards us
 we can do our plan.

This they did according to plan
 for the porch was wide extensive
 and they could see in all di-
 rections of the sky except the
 south.

It was awfully close for an
 early June day and even for Vio-
 let and her sisters who were
 used more to tropical climate
 than anything else felt any-
 thing but comfortable and yearn-
 ed for a cool breeze.

There was no appearance
 of a rumbling cloud though there
 were various kinds in the sky.
 But they appeared to be clear-
 ing up and there was not even
 the slightest indication of
 rain in sight.

"It is no use for to night"
 said Violet in a disappointing
 tone of voice. "It seems its going
 to be a real draughty summer
 unlike my country which has
 very loud and terrific thunder
 storms every other day. Its
 the same where winter is too
 for it does that in summer.
 and snows every other
 day in winter."

"Every other day?"
 gasped John.
 "Yes indeed especially in the
 tropics. We never live where

its winter. And it rains awfully
 hard."

"But that's a whole lot of rain. With
 we had it here that often. Could you
 really tell when one is coming?"

"Yes to prove it I and my sisters
 could draw a picture of such a
 cloud." But she continued "what has
 a thunderstorm got to do with the
 banshees in Mr. Resemans house?"

Father Carney told us demons are
 not afraid of storms, not even
 tornadoes or volcanic eruptions.

"I did not say the demons are
 afraid of any kind of storms, Violet"
 said John. "I mean they take advan-
 tage of storms to work their crazy
 phenomena. If we can catch
 them in a phenomenon during
 a thunderstorm then we can over-
 throw their fool work."

"Suppose they catch onto your idea
 and won't perform during a thunder-
 storm?" put in Pernod.

"You would think of that" John said
 almost apologetically.

"But maybe they do it and in a
 way we wouldn't want" added
 Jennie.

"Why do you say that?" demanded
 John.

"Demons can overhear us."
 "I'd take the chance" he answered.
 "The sooner the storm comes the
 better."

The next day - being Saturday
 there was no school. That day
 turned out to be a scorching a
 swealter. They nevertheless
 went to Resemans haunted house.

and to invoke God on their behalf they walked it all the way despite it being 98 in the shade. Starting in the morning they arrived there in the afternoon and they headed towards Mrs Flannigan's house which still had not been restored after the fire, when suddenly John grabbed Pennod's arm, and said in a whisper: -

"Look" They all gazed in the direction of the 'haunted' Sese man house and couldn't believe their eyes.

All trees were in full leaf but could it be possible that one of them was in a motion as if it was actually walking up and down the main path?

"I think we're seeing things" said Violet to some body in it and walking it up and down the path. "Do you really see it Pennod?"

"See it?" demanded Pennod. "Why that crazy tree is walking?"

"I'll say it is" cried John. "Any real human person inside a tree that high and big would have to have Atlas strength to walk along with that big twig. It's one of those crazy phenomena."

"Sett go in and chase it suggested Jennie. "We are not afraid."

"Our time is not up yet to begin general operations" de

clared John "if we do well spoil things and the demons will get worse and don't mention thunderstorms here".

They watched the phenomena from an easy vantage point until miraculously the 40 foot tree replaced itself and stayed where it was with wildly waving branches.

"I'll tell you what we'll do suggested Pennod. "How about staying inside the ruins of Mrs Flannigan's house on the first floor during the rest of the afternoon and keep an eye on the Sese man haunted property?"

"I don't like the idea" answered John who was approved by the little girls. "The demons set this place on fire two months ago. To burn you kids and heaven only knows what they'll do next if we're in there especially all night."

"We were not home there at the time the fire happened" admitted Pennod "but whether in Sese man's house or in Flannigan's the danger are equal. So what will we do. I don't propose we stay and sleep there. If you are afraid you could stay outside somewhere near it and I can go in on the first floor."

Pennod did as he planned but it was evident the devils were wise to turn, and all his plans went to naught as the fiends did nothing more.

The hoped for thunderstorm did not come either and they were soon on their way home but took a Taxi as it would take them too long to walk all that distance back home so late.

Without Violet and her sisters knowing of it, there soon had been news throughout the school house that the little Virans had found themselves a failure in Mr. Sere man's house.

They didn't know how such reports had spread but it was through the wagging tongues of some gossipers.

They however on a Tuesday decided that by letting the whole school go on in their mistake about the affair it would trick the demons but both Pernod and John did not believe it would keep matters much and tried to convince every one that the reports were false but nobody would believe them though of course they were not offended about what they thought and advised Pernod that he and his sisters better not go back to that awful Sere man house again.

"No one can drive evil spirits out of a house" said a little girl by the name of Margaret O'Brien. "Priests who have sacrificed everything for you and who have sanctified fingers could not do it why they help you, so how could you?"

The plan go through and the demons are dismayed

"I don't think we tried the right thing" answered Pernod.

"Maybe not" answered the little girl "but those awful spirits. It's a wonder they didn't kill you. I've heard from Uncle George Flannigan everything that happened. When those chandeliers choked your sisters it's a miracle you were able to save them. Surely you're not going back there?"

"Yes we'll try again after school is out for the summer. The next morning while studying their lessons in their class room and heeding their teachers directions Mrs. Dwight, desk telephone rang.

That was very unusual to the good teacher at that time of day. As she answered it a look of surprise combined with dismay came on her face. As hung the receiver she said excitedly:

(Princ) "Pernod, the principal wants you in her office right away. Detective Burn is there."

Pernod obediently went. He was gone some minutes and when he returned he went directly to his nearest sister Violet.

"We got to go to the crazy Sere man house right away" he said "Evans and Vargan are caught in an upside down phenomenon in that crazy library. And I thought it was not possessed any more."

"That's awful" cried Violet loud enough for every one in the school room to hear. And on the gate in the warning sign. And we told any one no matter who

they are not to go even near the place while we are away."

"Well we got to go to their help" insisted Perrod. Burns says the fire department is there but the men can't do a thing against the phenomenon nor release the imprisoned men."

"Well all right we'll have to anyway as we can't leave them in peril" answered Violet. She explained to Mrs Dewey what had happened, excused herself and her sisters and were soon on the way.

The fire department was there all right, every equipment except the hose cart.

But it seemed they had been afraid to enter the brick building because Perrod and his sisters were not there. Firemen and police who did dare go in had been driven out by dangerous phenomena and wouldn't take the chances of going in again.

No one knows how it was found out that the two men were trapped in the dome room, but they were. Perrod and his sisters went in hastily followed cautiously by some fire men and police but when they reached the door of the dining room no one could force it open, though the door contrary to the freakish prank of these kind of phenomena was not upside down. Yet the effects of the phenomena would not let the fire men break it in.

Violet and her sisters called to Evans and Dargan through the key hole, but got no answer as way down on the ceiling of the dome the two men didn't hear them. "I can readjust the room" said Violet, but the problem is to get in."

There are windows of the room on the north side of the main house towards the west," said the firemen.

"Yes I know" answered Violet "but the possessed Elm tree is there and any one of its branches can get us if we go by way of the fire escape. That crazy tree guards all front windows on that side. Even those inside the building dare not go near any of the windows, closed, or shut."

Perrod looked upward. "About about the transom?" he asked. "Could you make it Violet?" asked Burns. "You are so good at climbing, tricks you could do anything."

"I'll try" she answered. She got up on a high chair but the glass casement of the transom mysteriously slammed shut in her face and locked by itself.

"Give me a hammer and I'll knock the glass out" she said.

The broken glass will slide down on the men and cut them" warned Perrod.

"Then we've got to burst that door open, phenomena or no phenomena," she cried. "John you got that bottle of Holy Water?"

"Yes Violet"

She looked at one of the men holding a sledge hammer, though such a little girl, to the greatest

surprise of all (except Pernod) she showed she was stronger than any man there.

"Please give me that hammer like a nice man Mr?" she said politely.

He obeyed and as John sprayed Holy water on the door she surprised them all the more by swinging the hammer with the swift ness of a strong man.

The blow shattered the door to pieces, and to the still more greater surprise of all including Violet, the door apparently hollered "ouch" "Why didn't the hammer holler 'ouch' and be done with it" she said.

And it did. Violet looked down towards the ceiling of the dome the sliding boards of the door causing the two men to squirm out of the way. Not knowing who was above Evans called in broken English.

"We are trapped by 30 bees phenomena. We no can get up 30."

"Wait until I get something to let down to you" called Violet. "Some one has gone for a rope."

A few minutes passed and a fireman came with a long thick rope, and in a few minutes more the two men were hauled out of the Crazy dome room.

"Are you going to right the room?" asked Webster George.

"I am."

"Yes I am, because if I don't

the demons will think they're getting the better of me, Only I dare not try it with Evans and Dargan down there. The reverse Phenomenon might throw them off their guard and cause them injury.

"Violet dear I would not advise you to go down there alone" said Pernod. "If you have to go I'll go down with you, well I'll be" he added looking with surprise at the staircase banister.

They all looked in the same direction and observed to their dismay about ten strange unusually large heads with horrid grinning faces on them floating down the steps following alongside the banister. They first sway up and down side to side and then one by one they floated through the broken doorway into the dome room, and also one by one they disappeared.

"I believe that behavior me not to go in there after all" said Violet.

After they slowly left the Crazy house John Scanlon beckoned Violet aside and whispered some thing in her ear. She slyly nodded as if she understood and both rejoined the rest. But the quick eye of her sisters and Pernod had caught what seemed to be a secret conversation and Jennie asked when John was some way ahead.

"What did John whisper to you Violet dear?"

Violet put her finger to her lips and answered softly.

"I cannot tell no one here the crazy house is too near though it's no secret from you. He told me not to mention what he said until we got home and it's a long way."

When they reached home Evars in Abbeannan explained to Pernod and his sisters how they got trapped in the dome room.

John he said in broken English:

"Dargan had wanted to see ze seen herion of ze crazy house men not taking ze deermoon would break me led heem seen and made ze souch of severy room zem seen safty."

There was not the slightest sign of the busy crazy house being what you call heem possessed any more and Dargan said to me that he was somewhat disappointed seen not seeing ze well described phenomenon. I did not know anything about the treacherous nature of the crazy Bern Room and the instant we stepped in the phenomenon died a venting. ze break zat sent zat huge room upside down and trapped us beautifully.

Some were near ze our musta seen us go seen ze building and knowing what might happen to us had phoned ze Dictature Bern who came seen and who I saw at saved us down on ze ceiling through the transome and zem he musta have called you up. ze phenomena went

so slow however we were not hurt.

Sat. 1947/

Yes? know answer.
I told but he says.
Elm tree is here
and any of the branch
can get it if we
go by way of
the fire escape that
crazy tree guard
also from window
on that side
Even less made the
build my dam mad
go near any of
the window.
Pernod looks

upward
How about the
crimson? he asked
Could you make
it violet also?
Burns you go go
at climb back
you could do
anything.